

**Methods:** Employing the HBM as a guiding framework, five focus groups were conducted involving rural community members. The HBM components—perceived susceptibility, severity, benefits, barriers, cues to action, and self-efficacy—helped structure discussions and analyze data, providing insights into the community's health beliefs and attitudes towards vaccination. Trustworthiness and rigor were ensured by having each author analyze and cross check themes identified and consensus obtained amongst the three coauthors.

**Results:** The study revealed a deep-seated mistrust in both governmental health authorities and pharmaceutical entities, contrasted with a strong trust in local healthcare providers, notably pharmacists. Identified barriers to vaccine uptake included concerns about the safety and efficacy of vaccines, skepticism towards the accelerated development of new vaccines, and a call for more accessible and localized vaccine information. Participants expressed a need for interventions to address these concerns directly.

**Conclusions:** Key factors influencing vaccine hesitancy in rural areas were elucidated, highlighting the critical role of health professionals in mitigating these concerns. By focusing on reducing perceived barriers and enhancing perceived benefits and self-efficacy, pharmacist-led interventions can significantly improve vaccine confidence and uptake. Future efforts will focus on exploring community pharmacist perspectives and creating a tailored MI training for pharmacists, based on our findings.

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#### Abstract 138

##### Examining Community Pharmacists' Perceptions of their Professional Quality of Life: Taking Care of the Pharmacist

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**Background:** During the COVID-19 pandemic, community pharmacists faced increased workload and demands from patients and the healthcare system that continues to this day. Understanding professional (work-related) quality of life (QOL) can inform evidence-based strategies to improve pharmacist well-being, decrease burnout, and improve workplace retention. Additionally, for pharmacists to engage in caring patient relationships and optimize medication use, it is important to examine their professional QOL. The primary objective was to examine community pharmacists' perceptions of their professional QOL. The secondary objective was to assess associations between professional QOL and pharmacists' practice-related characteristics, as well as pharmacists' perceptions of the impact of professional QOL on patient relationships.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional, descriptive survey design was used. A Qualtrics panel of community pharmacists representative of the United States pharmacist population in terms of age, gender, and ethnicity, was used to gather study data (N=200). Pharmacists' perceptions of their professional QOL were measured using the validated 30-item Professional Quality of Life (ProQOL) instrument (version 5). ProQOL measures professional QOL that is impacted by perceived support, compassion satisfaction, and compassion fatigue. Compassion fatigue dimensions include burnout, secondary traumatic stress, and moral distress. Data were collected on practice-related characteristics and respondent demographics. Open-ended survey questions allowed pharmacists to provide comments about their professional QOL and impact on patient relationships. Primary objective data will be analyzed using the ProQOL manual. Secondary objective data will be analyzed using quantitative analyses (alpha set at 0.05 a priori) and open-ended response data will be analyzed using content analysis. Descriptive statistics will be used to describe the study sample.

**Results:** Data collection is complete.

**Conclusions:** Study results will inform future research to develop and evaluate an intervention to improve community pharmacist professional QOL. Future research to study the impact of professional QOL on pharmacist-patient relationships and the patient medication use process is planned.

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#### Abstract 140

##### Exploring community pharmacists' and patients' experiences regarding a community pharmacist-delivered depression screening and referral service for older adults

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**Background:** Approximately 10-15% of older adults (≥65 years) experience late-life depression (LLD). Community pharmacists are well-positioned to identify patients at risk of LLD, thereby supporting the timely detection and treatment of LLD. The aim of this study is to explore community pharmacists' and patients' experiences delivering and receiving a depression screening and referral service for older adults, respectively.

**Methods:** Community pharmacists and patients who participated in a pilot study in New South Wales, Australia, from 2021-2023, focussing on screening and referring older adults at risk of depression, were invited to participate in semi-structured interviews following completion of pilot study data collection. An interview guide was developed to explore pharmacists' and patients' experiences delivering and receiving the screening service, respectively. Semi-structured interviews explored barriers and facilitators and assessed pharmacists' and patients' comfort and acceptability regarding the service. Thematic inductive analysis was used to identify themes and subthemes.

**Results:** A total of six pharmacists and five patients completed telephone interviews. Most pharmacists were female (n=4) and practising in a metropolitan area (n=4), whereas all patients were female (n=5). Three themes were identified: 'Appropriateness of the community pharmacy setting', 'Training before screening is valuable' and 'Patients' hesitation to undergo screening', which were divided into six subthemes. Pharmacists and patients were accepting of the screening service, with pharmacist-patient rapport, frequent interactions between patients and pharmacists, and training acting as facilitators. Barriers included patients' preference to discuss mental health concerns with doctors compared to pharmacists and mental health stigma.

**Conclusions:** Pharmacists and patients viewed pharmacist-delivered LLD screening to be an acceptable and useful service, reporting that positive patient-pharmacist relationships improved comfort with screening. The findings of this study may be used to inform potential service delivery models to support the early identification and treatment of LLD.

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#### Abstract 159

##### Factors Impacting Job Satisfaction among Pharmacists in the Arab World: A Qualitative Study

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